

2010 California Parks Conference



March 15-17, 2010

Sponsored by:

***California State Parks Foundation
Sacramento County Parks
Park Rangers Association of California
California State Park Rangers Association***



California Parks Conference 2010



Conference Information

Conference Registration

The registration and information table will be open from 10:00 am until 8:00 pm on Monday and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Tuesday, and Wednesday. Ask at the front desk. You will receive your information packets, meal tickets and any pre-ordered items. Conference merchandise will also be available.

Silent Auction

There will be a wide array of interesting items for this year's silent auction including your chance to swim in the Hearst Castle pool. Proceeds will support the start-up of next year's conference. The auction will open at 9:00 am on Tuesday and will close promptly at 4:00 pm on Wednesday.

Random Prize Drawing

Don't miss your chance to win some great prizes. Tickets are available at the conference registration desk.

Exhibitors and Vendors

A variety of vendors, agencies and other organizations will be set up at the hotel. Please be sure to visit the Vendor Display Area beginning 9:00 am on Tuesday and continuing all day on Wednesday.

PRAC Accreditation

PRAC adopted minimum professional training standards for Park Rangers in 2001. The training standards provide a recommended minimum training level for a well-rounded generalist ranger. PRAC has already issued Generalist Ranger Certificates. Conference participants attending any of the training sessions that apply toward a PRAC learning domain can receive a certificate of completion to be used toward fulfilling PRAC's standards. A roster will be provided in each room of qualifying sessions. Those wishing PRAC credit for a session must be sure to sign the PRAC roster.

California Department of Pesticide Regulation Continuing Education

Continuing education credits will be available for selected sessions. Please see the session description for approved programs.



2010 California Parks Conference

Monday, March 15th Activities

Join us for one of the day's events:

Tour of San Bruno Mountain State and County Park

Operated jointly by the State of California and the County of San Mateo San Bruno Mountain Park is a landmark of local and regional significance, standing as a unique open-space island in the midst of the peninsula's urbanization at the northern end of the Santa Cruz Mountain Range. The Mountain's ridge line runs in an east-west configuration, with considerable slopes and elevations ranging from 250 feet to 1,314 feet at the summit. The 2,326 acres of rugged landscape offer excellent hiking opportunities and outstanding views of San Francisco and Central Bay Area. San Bruno Mountain was also the first Habitat Conservation Plan in the world to balance protection for federally listed butterflies, open space protection, and development.

The parks' principal resources include 14 species of rare or endangered plant life, as well as host and nectar plants of endangered butterflies. The endangered or threatened butterflies, (San Bruno Elfin, Mission Blue, Callippe Silverspot, and Bay Checkerspot) are found in only a few other places in the world.

Join Senior Planner Sam Herzberg and Ranger Al Zuker from the San Mateo County Parks Department for a tour of this unique urban oasis.

Tour size limited to 30 persons 10 am to 1 pm—Meet in the hotel lobby by 9 am to carpool to the site.

Public-Private Partnership in Practice

Guadalupe River Park and Gardens, San Jose

Visit downtown San Jose's Guadalupe River Park and Gardens (GRPG) to learn about the multi-party effort to create this 200-acre park and flood control project through the heart of downtown San Jose. Partners in the design and development of the park include the City of San Jose, the Army Corp of Engineers, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, the San Jose Mineta International Airport, California Department of Fish and Game and the Friends of the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens. The Guadalupe River Park and Gardens is home to festival sites, museums, public art, children's play areas, protected habitat for wildlife including endangered species, many gardens and miles of hiking and biking trails. Join Leslee Hamilton, Executive Director of the Friends of the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens to explore the ongoing collaboration between the City of San Jose and Friends of GRPG as the park and gardens continue to develop to serve the many different needs of a diverse community. The workshop will combine an overview of the project, a van and walking tour of GRPG, and time for questions and answers. Tour size is limited to 12 persons - Participants can ride Cal-Train to San Jose to meet the tour van or start at the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens, 438 Coleman Ave. San Jose at 10:15 am



2010 California Parks Conference

Monday, March 15th Activities—Continued

Happy Hollow Park Zoo and Lake Cunningham Skate Park Tour

This van and walking tour will take participants to explore two unique facilities in the San Jose Regional Park System. The first stop will be at Happy Hollow Park and Zoo located in Kelley Park in the center of San Jose. Originally opened in 1965 this children's amusement park and fully accredited zoo has just completed a 70 million dollar renovation to become the first LEEDS certified zoo and amusement park in the nation. Join park staff for a behind the scenes tour of the park and zoo to discuss the sustainable and environmentally sound practices that went into the development of this special children's park.

After leaving Happy Hollow the van will take participants to the Lake Cunningham Skate Park. At 68,000 square feet, Lake Cunningham Regional Skate Park is the largest skate park in California. The skate park features the world's largest cradle, tallest vertical wall, and largest full pipe (per the Guinness Book of World Records). Topics covered during the tour include design and construction issues, park operations, special park use – such as television filming, participant safety, rescue techniques, and future expansion plans. Tour size is limited to 12 persons - Participants can ride Cal-Train to San Jose to meet the tour van or start at Kelley Park , 1300 Senter Road, San Jose at 10:15 am

California Academy of Sciences Tour

Visit the newly renovated facilities at this famous San Francisco destination. Tour size is 15. Pat Clark-Gray (pgray@parks.ca.gov), Tour Coordinator, will send tour details via e-mail or mail to the first 15 participants who register for this tour.

Pistol Competition

Test your shooting skills at the pistol competition to see who can claim the prize for their firearms skills. Participants are required to provide their own duty weapon, 100 rounds of ammunition, approved eye and ear protection and body armor. For more information contact Ken Wong at kwong@ebparks.org

Welcome Reception

Meet from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Join fellow attendees for hors d'oeuvres, beverages and a chance to catch up with old and new friends.

Tuesday Night: U.S.S. Hornet Museum Dinner and Tour

Join fellow park professionals for dinner aboard the U.S.S. Hornet. This Essex Class carrier participated in the Pacific Theater of World War II and was the carrier that retrieved the crew of Apollo 11, the first men to walk on the moon. Join us for dinner in the Officers Ward Room followed by an evening tour of this famous landmark. Bring your camera to capture historic memories such as walking in Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins footsteps as they transferred from the recovery helicopter to the on-board quarantine facility. Tickets to this special event are \$50.00 per person. (The U.S.S. Hornet is a historic ship and is not fully ADA accessible. Visitors will need to use a narrow ships stairwell to access the dining area).

California Parks Conference 2010



Tuesday, March 16

Opening Keynote 9:00 am to 10:00 am

Ed Begley Jr, actor and environmentalist will provide the keynote address for the conference. Mr. Begley has served as chairman of the Environmental Media Association, and has served as a board member for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Thoreau Institute, the Earth Communications Office, Tree People and Friends of the Earth.

10:00 am to 11:00 am

Military Living History at Fort Tejon State Historic Park -Sean Malis, State Park Interpreter, Fort Tejon State Historic Park

Sean will share with the participants the interpretive program at Fort Tejon State Historic Park and in particular will feature the Military Living History Program. Sean is very committed to the park and has created many opportunities for the public to learn and enjoy their history and heritage

San Bruno Mountain State and County Park – An Urban Oasis - Sam Herzberg, Senior Planner San Mateo County Parks Department

Operated jointly by the State of California and the County of San Mateo San Bruno Mountain Park is a landmark of local and regional significance.. The parks' principal resources include 14 species of rare or endangered plant life, as well as host and nectar plants of endangered butterflies.

Tactical Communications—Kim Coast, Ranger Supervisor, National Park Service

Tactical Communications is the art of engaging people through empathy, listening better and always being heard. The emphasis of this course is to begin to teach you to respond, not react, to situations. You will begin to learn and apply techniques to use your words to redirect the negative force of others toward positive outcomes.

11:00 am to 12:00 noon

Lichen Ecology and Conservation on the Central Coast Lisa Andreano, Environmental Scientist, California State Parks

The fascinating lichen - what are they, why they are important and how they affect land management goals and strategies. This session will also cover taxonomy, classification, and lichen communities as well as species diversity and sensitive taxa.

Legal Update—Andrea Tavenier Deputy DA, Contra Costa County

Legal updates regarding new laws and criminal procedures, etc.

12:00 noon to 2:00 pm

Luncheon

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Ocean Literacy Standards -Jim Covel, Senior Manager for Guest Experience at the Monterey Bay Aquarium
Come to Jim's session to learn about the new Ocean Literacy Standards and how you can incorporate these standards into your interpretive programs and educational programs.

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Spread the Word, Not the Mussel! Introduction the Quagga Mussel /New Zealand Mud Snail Problem Catharine Mandella, California Department of Fish and Game

This presentation will include Don't Move a Mussel! video covering the ecological and economical impacts of a Dreissenid (mussel) infestation This session will also cover the current issues and status of the quagga and zebra mussel in California - including monitoring inspection and decontamination procedures.

Application for 2 hours of DPR CE pending



2010 California Parks Conference

Tuesday, March 16 continued

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Weapons Recognition—Steve Ingalls, Park Ranger
Sacramento County Parks

Basic identification of ammunition, firearms identification and safe unloading of different types of firearms. A quick overview of edged weapons and firearms related laws also will be covered.

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Social Media in Interpretation and Environmental Education—Carol Tang, California Academy of Sciences

With the advent of social media, our audiences now are more engaged when they can contribute their opinions, knowledge, images, videos, etc. While good interpreters have always incorporated user-contributed content, this talk will highlight a few specific high-tech and low-tech ideas and the resources needed to do it well. Using examples from a climate change exhibition at the California Academy of Sciences, Carol will also discuss the importance of using social media techniques in engaging audiences with controversial topics and inciting behavioral and attitudinal changes.

Off Highway Vehicles—An Orientation

Loren Rex, Visitor Services Program Manager, California State Parks

Join this discussion on California State Parks Off Highway Vehicle Parks. Topics covered will include resource management, enforcement and special programs.

4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Thimbleberry Rouge and Red Ant Vinaigrette: Providing Culturally Accurate and Meaningful Information about California Indian Cultures Past and Present -

Beverly Ortiz, East Bay Regional Park District Naturalist

Cultural interpretation carries with it a unique responsibility to the people whose cultures are the subject of that interpretation. Yet interpreters seeking to present culturally accurate and meaningful programs about California Indian cultures past to present are faced with an increasing amount of misinformation about those cultures in web, print and visual media. We'll discuss practical ways to assess the accuracy of available information, and provide you with ideas for creating engaging programs that are relevant to the culturally-diverse audiences who attend, including California Indians.

4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

The Role of Contraception in a Program of Integrated Resident Goose Management Erick Wolf, Innolytics, LLC

This session will discuss the use of feed through contraception as part of a multi-faceted long term program to control non-migratory Canada Geese populations.

DPR Approved for 1 hour of "Other" A-0710-10

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Dinner and Tour of U.S.S Hornet

Enjoy dinner in the Wardroom aboard the historic WWII Essex Class Aircraft Carrier U.S.S Hornet while you socialize with friends. After dinner join us for a Docent tour of this famous ship to learn about her historic battles and her participation in the Manned Moon Missions of the

Apollo program. (The U.S.S. Hornet is a historic ship and is not fully ADA accessible. Visitors will need to use a narrow ships stairwell to access the dining area).





California Parks Conference 2010

Wednesday, March 17

9:00 am to 10:00 am

Cell Phone Interpretation—*Dave Ashreim, USA Guide by Cell*

Budget cuts and economic troubles have been affecting all California citizens. With reduced expenditures and staff hours how can parks continue to serve and educate the public at the same level of excellence and precision?

Mobile technology is a growing, innovative solution to help parks stay in contact with visitors. Utilizing audio and text messaging features, staff can create audio content and let visitors call in to hear from experts and gather valuable information from staff even if they are not on location. Content can be shared in multiple languages for foreign or ESL visitors and can serve as an assistive device for the hearing or visually impaired. Because mobile is targeted, visitors call in for information they need or want, and important safety messages can be accessed or updated at any time.

Aviation Archeology – *Ken Miller, Park Ranger Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District*

Discussion on Park Ordinances, types of people who search for the sites, local history tie-in's to famous California wrecks. Ken will also talk about preserving these unique cultural resources.

Basic Radio Usage – *Matt Wilken, Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority*

This course is an introduction to basic two-way radio use. If you are new to the field or teach others how to use radios this class can provide valuable tools.

9:00 am to 11:00 pm

S-110, Basic Wildland Fire Orientation

Introduction to Base Camp—*David Updike*

Fire Management Officer, Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority

Basic Wildland Fire Suppression Orientation is a session which provides essential information for individuals interested in wildland fire management. It may be used as a companion to S-130, Firefighter Training, and is particularly useful for indoctrination of non-fire management employees to the world of wildland fire. The class provides information on personal preparedness and responsibility, mobilization, incident procedures, proper clothing and equipment, and living conditions in wildland fire camps

10:00 am to 11:00 am

The Interpretive Design Process-How to Get What You Expect, and More~ *Gay Kraeger, Creative*

Partner at Wildways Illustrated

As with any project, preparation and communication are essential to success. Here are some considerations to help you prepare for working with designers and manufacturers in the creation of interpretive exhibits or way-side panels. We will cover steps in the process so you can decide what you want to do in-house and what you will out-source. This overview presents a "laundry list" of options to consider.

Trail Building – Using Machinery to Build Trails Efficiently – *Mike Newburn, Area Supervisor, Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District*

Join the trail building team from the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District to look at mechanized trail building in open spaces. After a short discussion on the District's trail building process participants will have a chance to look at some of the mini-excavators and other machines used to build quality trail and talk with experienced equipment operators.



2010 California Parks Conference

Wednesday, March 17 continued

10:00 am to 11:00 am

DFG Warden Duties Related with Detection K9 -

Roxanne Bowers, Warden, California Department of Fish and Game

Discuss the role K-9's play in environmental protection. California's natural resources face numerous threats; species extinction, introduced non-natives, over fishing, pollution, urban development, poaching, and the unlawful commercialization of the resources. Game Wardens are charged with the responsibility of enforcing environmental laws and regulations. Their K-9 partners aid them by detecting hidden fish, game and firearms and apprehending suspects. Additionally, they detect non-native species, such as, Quagga and Zebra Mussels. As a team, California Fish and Game Warden Canine Units patrol the waters, roads, and fields of the state in an effort to protect California's ever threatened natural resources.

11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Bridging People and Parks through Partnerships -

Robin Joy, State Park Interpreter, Fort Ross State Historic Park

Robin will be talking about the Living History Program at Fort Ross especially their highly successful Environmental Living Program. She will also be sharing the exciting plans for the Bicentennial 2012 celebration for Fort Ross.

California State Parks Foundation

Preserving the "Call of the Wild" through Volunteer

Stewardship, Dave "Doc Quack" Riensche, Wildlife Resource Analyst East Bay Regional Park District

Managing wildlife species in a park setting poses many challenges. Public relations, education, and citizen conservationist activities are three keys to meeting those challenges and creating sound wildlife

management decisions. This presentation will highlight the efforts made to involve volunteers in our field research and habitat conservation projects, and provide insights on how others might emulate our model. Volunteer projects include: creating and managing habitat for endangered wildlife, planting tree seedlings to enhance the regeneration of oak woodlands, monitoring riparian songbirds, grassland dwelling reptiles, and wetland nesting birds. Thanks to their "strength in numbers", volunteer activities have saved the District approximately \$1,056,046 and have provided the vehicle to generate more than \$400,000 in grant funds. You'll discover proven, fun and exciting ways to "incubate" wildlife stewardship in people of all ages that "hatches" outstanding volunteerism, positive public attention, grant funding, and achieves priority agency outcomes.

11:00 am to 12:00 pm

S-133, Look Up, Look Down, Look Around - David

Updike Fire Management Officer, Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority

This course is designed to train Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5) and Firefighter Type I (FFT1) to identify environmental factors and indicators of hazardous fire conditions, and how to use these indicators when implementing the Risk Management Process. The course is DVD-based training, based on facilitated exercise.

12:00 noon to 2:00 pm

Luncheon



California Parks Conference 2010

Wednesday, March 17 continued

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

The Land-Sea Connection: Partners in Protection - Dawn Hayes, Education & Outreach Coordinator, NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Today, many State and local parks and beaches are contiguous with numerous special marine areas. Where are they and how do they dovetail with your agency? Local, State and Federal entities are working on statewide education and outreach efforts related to coastal protection and compliance with new zoning. Learn what these efforts are and how you can benefit. Also, learn about the National Marine Sanctuary System and specifically the four sanctuaries in California: Monterey Bay, Gulf of Farallones, Cordell Bank and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuaries

Drug Recognition—Jenny Donovan, Park Ranger, California State Parks

A discussion of new/current drug trends, identifying narcotic substances, and symptomology of under the influence of narcotics and other substances.

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

An Orientation to CEQA and NEPA—Dave Mitchell, Parks Planning Manager, City of San José

Overview of the "California Environmental Quality Act" (CEQA) and the "National Environmental Policy Act" (NEPA) for Parks and Recreational Professionals to obtain a general knowledge of CEQA and NEPA, their Acronyms, and when do they apply to Parks and Recreation Field in California.

Professional Development – Pam Armas, Sierra District Superintendent and Karyn Lombard, Training Specialist - California State Parks

Professional Development - By establishing values and developing a personal vision statement participants will gain tools for career and personal development

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Talking Climate Change -Aaron Pope and Elizabeth Selna, California Academy of Sciences

Climate change is a misunderstood and often controversial topic in America. Learn about the basics of climate change, why there is so much confusion and misinformation among the general public, and how to speak with them about it.

Fire Use in Resource Management -Lisa Andreano, Environmental Scientist, California State Parks

Topics will include using fire as an integrative approach to weed and pathogen control, the preservation and restoration of unique plant communities, the use of fire for fuel modification, and the re-introduction of quasi-natural fire cycles

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Beer and the Golden State -Ira Bletz, Supervising Naturalist, Eastbay Regional Park District

California is the epicenter of a beer revolution! It all started right here in San Francisco. Explore beer's cultural and natural history on this taste bud tour of some of our state's most unique brews. Join well-known interpreter and tastemaker, Ira Bletz, as he guides you through the history, lore and mythology surrounding California's beer history.

Note: A \$10 donation to the instructor. Is requested We will have sign-ups at the registration table and the maximum number of participants for this session will be 60.

6:00 pm

Closing Banquet

The last hurrah for the conference allows you to have one last time to meet up with friends and honor those who have contributed to the profession we all love.